



# SAFETY GRAM

## Fatalities, Entrapments and Serious Accident Summary for 2004

The following data indicate the fatalities and major accidents in calendar year 2004. It includes serious vehicle accidents, fatalities, burn-over/ entrapments and injuries associated with wildland and prescribed fire operations. The information was collected by the NWCG Safety & Health Working Team, with confirmation of the fatalities from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

Date	Jurisdiction, Location	Activity and Type of Accident	Agency / Entity of Personnel Involved	Number of People	Shelter Available	# Shelters Deployed	Fatalities	Injuries
2/18	Chipley, Florida	Firefighting, Prescribed Fire	Volunteer, Nature Conservancy	1				1 <sup>st</sup> degree burns
2/22	Gloster, Mississippi	Driving, Accident	Volunteer	1			1	
2/24	Sebastian, Florida	Burnover, Prescribed Fire	State Park	3				2 <sup>nd</sup> degree burns
2/25	Rosewood, Florida	Driving, Rollover	State	1			1	
3/16	Safford, Arizona	Aviation, Training, SEAT Aircraft	Contractor	1			1	
3/21	Alabaster, Alabama	Firefighting, Heart Attack	Volunteer	1			1	
3/21	Bayou Cumbest Incident, Pascagoula, Mississippi	Driving, Rollover	Volunteer	1			1	
3/22	Arapaho National Forest, Fort Collins, Colorado	Prescribed Fire, Burns	Federal / USFS	1				1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> degree burns

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3/28	Eaton Rapids, Michigan	Firefighting, Heart Attack	Volunteer	1			1	
3/28	Crossett, Arkansas	Firefighting, Heart Attack	Volunteer	1			1	
4/24	West Memphis, Arkansas	Pedestrian Accident, Crew In Transit	Federal / USFS	2			1	Severe injuries
5/13	Mailbox Incident, Osceola National Forest, Lake City, Florida	Firefighting, Heart Attack	Federal / USFS	1			1	
6/5	The Dalles, Oregon	Work Capacity Test, Heart Attack	State	1			1	
6/8	Bridger, Montana	Work Capacity Test, Heart Attack	Volunteer	1			1	
6/17	Dammeron Incident, St. George, Utah	Aviation, firefighting SEAT Aircraft	Contractor	1			1	
6/24	Noon Complex, Coronado National Forest, Safford, Arizona	Firefighting, Lightning Strike	Federal / USFS	4				1 <sup>st</sup> degree burns
6/28	Glenwood, Iowa	Firefighting, Burnover	Volunteer	2	No			1 <sup>st</sup> degree burns
6/30	Magdalena, New Mexico	Driving, Crew Carrier Accident	Federal / USFS	7				Severe injuries
7/1	Contra Costa County, Concord, California	Driving, Rollover	County	2				Minor injuries
7/2	Nuttal Incident, Coronado National Forest, Safford, Arizona	Firefighting, Shelter Deployment	Federal / USFS	12	12	11		No injuries

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7/13	Pine Incident, Angeles National Forest, Lancaster, California	Driving, Returning from Incident	County	1			1	
7/13	Colville Indian Reservation, Coleville, Washington	Walking to fire, Heart Attack	Contractor	1			1	
7/14	Waterfall Incident Carson City, Nevada	Firefighting, Burnover, Equipment Loss	Federal / USFS, Municipal, and Private	21	Not for all personnel	1		
7/22	Boundary Incident, Fairbanks, Alaska	Driving, Tracked Transport Vehicle	State	7				Minor injuries
7/31	Hebron, North Dakota	Firefighting, Heart Attack	Volunteer	1			1	
8/10	Wickcliffe, Kentucky	Driving, Apparatus Crash	Volunteer	1			1	
8/11	Wenatchee National Forest, Leavenworth, Washington	Aviation, Long line Operation	Contractor	1			1	
8/12	Middle Ridge Incident, St. George, Utah	Firefighting, Vehicle Burnover	Federal / BLM	0				
8/26	Taylor Complex, Gardiner Creek Incident, Northway, Alaska	Firefighting, Withdrawing to Safe Area	Federal / BLM-USFS	2				2 <sup>nd</sup> degree burns on feet
9/5	Powerhouse Fire, California	Firefighting, Tree Limb Fell	Federal / USFS	1				Back / neck injuries

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9/12	Tuolumne Incident, Stanislaus National Forest, Buck Meadows, California	Firefighting, Entrapment	State	7	Yes		1	Six injuries, smoke inhalation & 1 <sup>st</sup> degree burns
10/02	Kings Canyon National Park, California	Prescribed Fire Hit by Snag	Federal / NPS	1			1	
11/06	Mayking, Kentucky	Responding to Incident, Heart Attack	Volunteer	1			1	
		<b>December 31,2004</b>		<b>December 31, 2004</b>			<b>- 20 -</b>	

The following is a brief summary of the type of accidents experienced in 2004.

**Driving:** 8 accidents involving 21 personnel with 5 fatalities  
**Heart Attacks:** 9 fatal heart attacks, 2 associated with the Work Capacity Test (WCT) and 7 related to firefighting.  
**Prescribed Fire:** 4 accidents occurred on prescribed fires involving 6 firefighters with 1 fatality.  
**Aviation:** 3 aviation accidents occurred; 2 single engine air tankers (SEAT) and 1 helicopter for a total of 3 fatalities.  
**Wildland:** Wildland firefighting experienced 6 burnovers/ entrapments with 12 shelters deployed involving 44 personnel with 1 fatality.

Timely reporting of burnovers/entrapments and fatalities is necessary. Completion of the Wildland Fire Entrapment/Fatality Initial Report (NFES 0869) accomplishes this need. This initial report is self explanatory and does not replace agency reporting or investigative responsibilities, policies or procedures.

The NWCG Safety & Health Working Team requests any completed Investigation Reports from agencies that experienced the above or other burnovers/entrapments and fatalities in 2004. Please mail reports to the following address or email them to: [stan\\_palmer@nifc.blm.gov](mailto:stan_palmer@nifc.blm.gov).

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